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Press Advisory * Press Advisory * Press Advisory **Mayor and Fire Department to Kickoff Boot Drive TODAY!!**

For Immediate Release
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(August 18, 2005- TROY)- Mayor Harry J Tutunjian and the Troy Uniformed Firefighters Association will kickoff a Muscular Dystrophy Association "Boot Drive" on THIS morning at 10 a.m. outside the Central Fire Station on Sixth Avenue.

On Friday, August 19th firefighters will be at the major intersections in the City of Troy raising money for MDA through the "Fill The Boot" Program. The UFA hopes to raise \$5,000 this Friday in support of children and adults fighting Muscular Dystrophy.

MDA helps children and adults who are affected by any of the 43 neuromuscular diseases covered by MDA's comprehensive medical services and research program. MDA receives no government funding and charges no fees to those served by the Association.

In response to the effort by firefighters to raise money for MDA, Mayor Tutunjian declared that Friday would be "Firefighters Appreciation Day" in the City of Troy.

"The Muscular Dystrophy Association is a very noble cause, and I am proud of the firefighters in the City of Troy for volunteering their time," Tutunjian said. "Each and every day these men protect the residents of Troy, and we are eternally grateful for that. The "Fill The Boot" drive is an example of the UFA going the extra mile, which is to be commended."

Tom Scorsone, the President of the UFA, said the union is proud to help out MDA and is looking for the support of Troy residents on Friday.

"Muscular Dystrophy is a terrible disease that destroys the lives of millions of people each year," Scorsone said. "We are doing our part to find a cure, and we hope that the residents of Troy lend us their support for this great cause."